

attack might come; they just knew of the threat. Nonetheless, those marines carried on, guiding countless innocent civilians to safety.

His father Darin put it best. He said:

That's just the type of man that he was, doing what he needed to do and getting the job done for those that couldn't do it for themselves, and he was standing out front leading his men.

You see, Staff Sergeant Hoover demonstrated uncommon courage in fulfilling his duty that day, as with all other days in which he valiantly served.

This was not Mr. Hoover's first deployment to Afghanistan. In fact, he served three tours of duty there in his 11 years in the Marine Corps. He knew what war and Afghanistan were like. He decided to carry on and continue serving because that is what he had committed to do. Since high school, he knew he wanted to be a marine specifically. His father said that "he was dead set on it."

When the news in Afghanistan developed, Staff Sergeant Hoover told his family he wanted to be in the action to help with the evacuation mission. He died doing what he loved: serving his country and leading his men.

Staff Sergeant Hoover was the oldest of the 13 servicemembers killed in this attack. His life had been defined by his love of family and of country. He was committed to serving, and he lived and gave his life, showing the last full measure of devotion, demonstrating exactly what it means to be a U.S. marine.

Staff Sergeant Hoover leaves a legacy with his family, the State of Utah, and our Nation. He represents the best among us and the commitment of a servicemember and a marine. His dedication to the values of the Marine Corps and full-fledged devotion to what is right will remain with us forever. He will never be forgotten.

As the preparations are made to inter him along with other American heroes at Arlington National Cemetery, he can behold what the Marine Corps hymn promises and millions of good marines before him have seen: On Heaven's scenes, you will find the streets are guarded by United States marines.

Staff Sergeant Taylor Hoover joined the ranks of American heroes before him, always faithful. May God rest his soul, may God comfort his family, and may God bless us with the honor, courage, and commitment that Taylor Hoover truly lived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

HONORING CORPORAL DAEGAN WILLIAM-TYELER
PAGE

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, last Friday, I joined Nebraskans to honor the dignified return of Cpl Daegan William-Tyler Page of the U.S. Marine Corps, one of 13 servicemembers killed in the terrorist attack at the Kabul airport. It was heart-breaking, but to see the thousands of

people who lined the streets of Omaha between Eppley Airfield and Braman Mortuary was truly amazing. The outpouring of honor by the community during the procession was a solemn display of Nebraskans' love for one another and for this country. Nebraskans showed their gratitude for Corporal Page's service and offered support to his grieving family.

Corporal Page was only 23 years old when his life was needlessly cut short in Kabul. He was born in Iowa, but his family moved to Nebraska when he was 5.

He was a proud U.S. marine. He enlisted shortly after graduating from Millard South High School in Omaha. He was stationed in Pendleton, CA, but multiple deployments took him all around the world, to Japan, South Korea, Australia, Jordan, and Afghanistan.

After he finished his service, he planned to attend trade school in Nebraska, hoping to eventually become a lineman.

Corporal Page was also a beloved son, brother, grandson, and friend. He was especially adored by his younger siblings. To them, his family said, he was not just a hero in the Marines; he was their real-life hero, too.

And he had a soft spot in his heart for animals, most of all his three dogs.

He loved hockey. He played on a State champion club team in high school, Omaha Westside. And he was a diehard fan of the Chicago Blackhawks.

He was a member of Boy Scout Troop 331, where he gained an appreciation for the outdoors and of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Millard.

Hunting and being outside with his dad were among his favorite ways to spend his time, but he was also an avid skateboarder, amateur photographer, and an excellent sketch artist.

His family has asked Americans to remember him for his "fun-loving spirit, tough outer shell, and [his] giant heart."

Corporal Page's dignified return to Omaha came just 1 day before the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, which brought us to Afghanistan in the first place. He was just 3 years old on September 11, 2001, and his death came at the very end of a war that had lasted nearly his entire lifetime.

We are also going to hear this afternoon about the other servicemembers who lost their lives in Kabul on August 26. Like Corporal Page, most of these men and women had their whole lives ahead of them. Like Corporal Page, most of them were probably too young to have any memory of the event that took us to the country where they gave their lives. His sacrifice and that of these 12 other servicemembers must not be in vain. It is now up to us, both here in Congress and in our daily lives across this country, to live up to the lofty example that is set by their selflessness.

I ask that we remember him and his family in our prayers and that he rest in peace.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT TAYLOR HOOVER

Mr. ROMNEY. Madam President, this past weekend, we gathered to reflect on the anniversary of a national tragedy. The visible and invisible wounds incurred on that day continue to impact the lives of all of us.

In the last two decades since 9/11, our Nation has demonstrated enormous resilience, imponderable sacrifice, and pursued justice in dangerous lands, often under perilous conditions. We have asked our servicemembers to do so very much to keep us safe, and they have responded with uncommon courage. Last month, 13 of our Nation's finest upheld their sacred oath at the cost of their lives.

They were struck down by the cowardice of terrorists while, at the same time, they were helping innocent Afghan civilians reach a better life. Over 100 Afghan civilians were also killed on August 26 in that terrorist attack at the Kabul airport, and many more were grievously wounded. We also hold in our hearts the American servicemembers who suffered those terrible injuries that day.

On September 11, 2001, Taylor Hoover, from Sandy, UT, was just 11 years old. Nine years later, he was a staff sergeant in the Marine Corps. He would go on to serve three tours of duty in Afghanistan and earned both the respect of his fellow soldiers abroad and the admiration of those who knew him well and loved him here at home.

As we recently gathered in Salt Lake City to mourn the life of Staff Sergeant Hoover, it was clear that this deep admiration was shared by thousands of the people of Utah. While our hearts were heavy with grief as his family shared their memories of Staff Sergeant Hoover, they were embraced by the crowd one by one as the ceremony concluded, and our communal bonds emerged ever stronger.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL WYATT WILSON

Madam President, another brave Utahn also risked his life and sustained life-threatening injury while supporting the evacuation operations at the Kabul airport that day. Our Nation thanks you, Cpl Wyatt Wilson, and we pray for your complete and speedy recovery. You and your brothers and sisters in arms have answered the call to serve with valor and devotion, and your service rendered continues to protect us to this day.

Let us carry forward these shared values and reflections on sacrifice in our daily lives and endeavor to strengthen our national bonds of unity.

May God bless our Nation's fallen and our wounded, and may He bless also their families and all the servicemembers who are today in harm's way. We are indebted to those known for their bravery, sacrifice, and heroism.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.